

Kandice Cleveland Graphic Designer



Kandice Cleveland is the graphic designer at Western Resource Advocates (WRA). She collaborates with staff to visually communicate the organization’s key messages about the importance of solving climate change, while inspiring stakeholders to take action. Her work focuses on designing print collateral for projects like quarterly newsletters, annual reports, position papers, and fact sheets and digital collateral, such as ad graphics and social posts. She is also responsible for amplifying the WRA brand across multiple platforms by creating email and web graphics to engage audiences. On a day-to-day basis, you may find Cleveland exploring new design trends, conducting research, or designing a mood board for an upcoming project.

Early in her career, she found herself struggling with anxieties about the health of the planet and its ecosystems. In college, Cleveland took a *Design Inquiry* course that discussed the importance of design ethics and how our design choices can have an impact. It was there that she found her passion for using her creativity as a force for good, exploring ways in which accessibility, sustainability, and inclusivity can work together to create meaningful outcomes. She enjoys applying this to her daily work – accessing how WRA’s commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion can continue to flourish through design.

Prior to WRA, Cleveland was a junior graphic designer for a conscious digital marketing agency. The firm was committed to working with clients that had ethical missions, such as sustainability in water bottles and health through food choices. Thus, it only felt natural to continue her work in an organization like WRA, and hold on to the important lessons of impact that she learned in *Design Inquiry*.

Cleveland received an Associate of Arts from the Community College of Aurora, as well as a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Communication Design from the Metropolitan State University of Denver. Her degree path focused on the importance of applying design as a tool to communicate thoughtfully and effectively. While in college, Cleveland worked part-time for Met Media – a group of students who provided design solutions for the campus. She was a BFA Thesis Honorable Mention and award recipient for her work on *The Objects and the Spectators*, which argued the historical rejection and objectification of Black female bodies perpetuates a society of othering.

Cleveland looks forward to continuing to grow as a designer. She is excited about finding innovative ways to show the effects of climate change, and why it needs our collective attention. To do this work would mean access for marginalized communities, safety for both people and wildlife, and conserving our home and its beauty so that communities and ecosystems can thrive.

Cleveland lives in Aurora with her extended family: her parents, three sisters, and eight nieces and nephews. In her free time, she enjoys participating in art markets, illustrating, embroidering, hiking, and baking. She adores visiting museums, studying architecture, and getting involved with the local art community as much as possible.

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